

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 521

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Governor Bill Richardson, of the State of New Mexico, for his many accomplishments and takes pleasure in welcoming him to the capital of the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Recently reelected to a second term as governor of his state by the largest margin of victory in New Mexico's history, Governor Richardson has enjoyed an exceptionally productive and fulfilling career in public service, in addition to his successful work in former positions in academia and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has led New Mexico to a position of national leadership in job growth and economic momentum; under his leadership, the state has attained a balanced budget and has the highest budget reserves in the state's history; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his election as governor, he served the citizens of northern New Mexico for 15 years as a representative of the 3rd Congressional District, one of the most ethnically diverse in the nation; during his tenure in the United States Congress, he served as a special envoy on numerous sensitive international missions, including successfully winning the release of hostages and American servicemen in North Korea, Iraq, and Cuba; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, Governor Richardson was appointed United States Ambassador to the United Nations; while serving in that position, he addressed many difficult challenges around the world; he served as an advocate for universal human rights, fought to increase awareness of the status of women in places such as Afghanistan, staunchly stood for international fair labor standards, and addressed such issues as global warming;

in recognition of his concern for human rights abuses and his diplomatic work, he has been nominated several times for the Nobel Peace Prize; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Governor Richardson was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate as Secretary of Energy, a position in which he championed environmental responsibility and clean and renewable technologies that will reduce our reliance on foreign resources; he also created a better working environment and further accountability at the Department of Energy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend Governor Bill Richardson for his exceptional accomplishments on behalf of the citizens of New Mexico and the United States and extend to him a heartfelt welcome to Austin; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis, Shapleigh, Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 19, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate